

## **Impressions from Professor Jay's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

We, the NZ Chan's contingent; Master Chan; Mr Craig Allan; Mr Andy Lane and Mrs Lane, arrived in San Francisco on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> (after a 12 hour flight). This allowed two days of tourism before the banquet and seminars. This included cable cars, The San Francisco Chinese Art Museum, Museum of Modern Art, Fisherman's Warf and a visit to the infamous Alcatraz.

The 90<sup>th</sup> birthday banquet was a very special and lavish affair with over 500 guests from around the world there to honour Prof. Jay. Master Chan sat with Prof. Jay and special friends at the main table while Mr Graham Humphrey (based in Oregon) joined the remaining Chan's party. There were more Masters, Grandmasters and Professors of various martial arts than you could shake a stick at, not that you would in that room! The dinner included a seven course Chinese banquet served while Lion dancers and a video presentation of Professor Jay's life entertained us.



The seminars followed on the next day at the Marriott Hotel. There were so many seminars teaching different Jujitsu techniques, I'll only have time to touch on a few. After the opening address

by Professor Leon Jay the seminars began with a special demonstration by Professor Don Jacobs. Prof. Jacobs' demonstration utilised Small Circle Jujitsu, strikes and weapon defence verses single and multiple opponents. Not only was it very slick but also done with such ease it looked effortless (as Master Chan always tells us) and it is easy to see why Professor Jacobs is considered one of the most dangerous people on the planet.



The first of the instructional seminars by Sensei Ernie Boggs began with Prof. Jay's famous words of greeting "Hi champ, what's your name?" Sensei Boggs seminar explained how these words were and are used to inspire and challenge the new student.

- "Hi champ" – where Prof. Jay used these words to build a students character and instil confidence.
- "What's your name? – Prof. Jay would not only ask the students name but what they new of themselves.

This set the tone of the very high level seminars. Not only were we shown physical techniques but given a glimpse of the principles behind. As Master Chan always tells us it's not the number of techniques you know but how well. Seeing is believing. I for one am even more appreciative of Master Chan's efforts, getting yet another perspective of the

path Master Chan's leading us. For me some of the seminar highlights follow:

- Sifu Janet Gee, with a five animal Kung-Fu form dedicated to Prof. Jay.
- Grandmaster Jack Hogan, use of energy and how absolutely no force can be used.
- Prof. Leon Jay, pressure point strikes and energy work, performing a pressure point knock out at 5m!
- Grand Master George Dillman, how using different emotions can increase or decrease the effectiveness of locks or energy.
- Sifu James DeMile with angles of attack and speed.
- Master Chan with effortless round kick and rapid kicking drill.

Throughout the day there were many wonderful technicians demonstrating a variety of techniques, from arm bars to finger locks to the use of traditional weapons from Professor Jays homeland of Hawaii.

However the day wouldn't be complete without Prof. Jay. Professor Jay taught a seminar on an elbow lock and finger control. The ease at which a 90-year-old man can lock, throw, control a student has to be seen.



The following day we were given the royal treatment. We were picked up from the Hotel and taken to the Jay

family home and gym, in Alameda. The walls of which are covered in memorabilia of those who have trained with Prof Jay, including greats such as Bruce Lee.



The afternoon was of a more personal note, beginning with a traditional Navaho blessing. At this stage many of the high level masters demonstrated how Small Circle Jujitsu added to their arts, including:

- Sensei David Quinonez, a US Judo champion, demonstrated how the small circle principles could be applied to traditional Judo throws making the more efficient and effortless. Sounds familiar doesn't it?
- Master Will Higginbotham, how the soft small circle could enhance self-defence "flows" (moving from lock to lock).

To top of this special day off we were invited to the Jay family banquet where Mr. Graham Humphrey didn't quite find his seat quick enough for Mrs. Jay! After the lovely meal Sensei David Quinonez drove us to the Oakland airport and we were off again.

After the one and half hour flight to Portland, Oregon, Mr. Humphrey drove us to his home in Corvallis. Corvallis is a beautiful small town of 55000 people

known for Oregon State University and HP. Mr. Humphrey gave us a personal tour of Corvallis (he was even able to convince Master Chan to correct our Tai Chi on top of a Mountain!)

A range of Martial art practitioners attended the Seminar taught by Master Chan on Monday night from the complete novice to a Judo instructor. The material covered included; stances, effortless strikes and energy release for pressure point strikes (I'm sure Mr. Allan volunteered, for the one strike pressure point knock out :-)). It was very well received and we hope Mr. Humphrey can build on this, starting the first US branch of Chan's Martial Arts.



We flew out of Portland very early on Wednesday morning after spending Tuesday Tax-free shopping and were greeted at the Oakland airport by Sensei David Quinonez. Sensei Quinonez insisted giving us a personal tour of San Francisco including;

- His own Dojo, at Alameda high school where Sensei teaches algebra, Jujitsu and Judo.
- The famous Japanese gardens and it didn't take us 3 ½ hours to walk there either!
- And finally the Golden Gate Bridge.



Master Chan always tells us of the high level Martial Art protocols but being treated like this is almost overwhelming. This was a very special trip, meeting very nice people, seeing very high level martial arts in action (protocols and techniques) and allowing me to see the path Master Chan is leading us. I hope those who get the opportunity go on these trips grasp them with two hands. It will open your mind to new people and improve your Kung Fu. I would like to thank Master Chan for allowing Danielle and myself see this.

